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Rabin: IDF won't return to Gaza

'Palestinian state in Gaza could be acceptable'



Stephen Flatow (center) prays at the coffin of his daughter, bomb victim Alisa Flatow, before her body was flown back to the US for burial yesterday. (Story, Page 2)

THE IDF will not return to the Gaza Strip, because Israel cannot find the Islamic terrorists there and it has no interest in returning to seething Palestinian areas of discontent, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said in a pre-Pessah interview with *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday. (Full interview to be published tomorrow.)

Rabin called upon PLO leader Yasser Arafat not just to convict terrorists, but also to arrest all who assist or incite the killers, even if they are Islamic religious leaders.

Rabin's remarks came one day after six Labor MKs called on him to allow the IDF to reenter Gaza to track down terrorists.

The premier said he would accept a Palestinian state in Gaza if he thought this would stave off Palestinian demands in the rest of the territories, but the Palestinians would not accept this, even in the interim period.

"If it would be possible, I don't see any problem in it," said Rabin. "I don't believe that any Palestinian will accept it... They [the Palestinians] say to us: 'You signed the DOP [Oslo Declaration of Principles], so implement it.'"

DAVID MAKOVSKY,
 LIAT COLLINS,
 and ALON PINKAS



Rabin responds to heckling at the Knesset. (Reuters)

Besides, Rabin added, Israel would not be able to find the terrorists so easily in Gaza, just as it has a hard time finding cells in areas under Israeli control.

Rabin set terms for Arafat to comply with in dealing with terror, suggesting this would help meet the Israel-Palestinian July 1 deadline, when complete negotiations on the interim agreement are supposed to conclude.

Asked to comment on Arafat's steps against Islamic militants following this week, Rabin replied, "It is not enough he is doing it in the last week or the last few days, unless he [does] it with determination, strength, and [as part of] a continuous [effort]."

armed law enforcement [body]; two, [ensure] others will not carry arms, except individuals that will be given permission; three, search in an effective way after those who [either] instigate - religious and not religious - organize, protect, [or] carry out the terror; to take them out of the area either by courts or administrative detention.

"Since the terrible accident of the bus in Tel Aviv last October, we detained 2,700 in the West Bank for interrogation, administrative detention," Rabin said.

Rabin said he hopes Arafat would also take additional measures against militants, such as "prevent[ing] appearances of arms at demonstrations" and that the Palestinian Police "be deployed along the fence of the Gaza Strip to prevent those who are trying to [threaten] our patrol near the fence. This is what he has to do."

Earlier yesterday, Rabin told the Labor Party Knesset faction that the constant mixing of Palestinians and Israelis creates "a garden of Eden for terrorists."

Rabin was addressing a special faction meeting on the security situation. The main theme of his 30-minute address was the difficulty of fighting suicide attacks.

"Any attempt to halt the peace process and negotiations will only increase, not weaken the terror. I haven't seen anyone who has a solution," Rabin said.

He repeatedly said that terror existed before the Oslo agreement and cited figures to back him up. Suicide bombings started in April 1993, before anyone knew about Oslo, Rabin said. (Continued on Page 2)

Jordan says yes to Arafat on Hamas crackdown

JON IMMANUEL

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday demanded that King Hussein clamp down on Hamas in Jordan, following threatening leaflets, faxed by Hamas from Amman to Gaza.

The leaflets said the Palestinian Authority has crossed "a red line" and is "playing with fire."

"These expressions and others cannot be understood except as threats to launch a civil war," an official PA statement said.

In the statement, published by Wafa, the PLO press agency, Arafat said that "the real leadership of Hamas - planning, financing, and giving orders - is in Amman."

He said that this activity violates Jordan's commitment, after its treaty with Israel, not to interfere in the internal affairs of the Palestinians.

Late last night, Jordan responded by saying it would not recognize Hamas anymore, but gave no details of actions it would take, Israel Radio quoted Wafa as saying.

Arafat asked if Jordan is also allowing Hamas to store arms and explosives, which are being used to commit attacks in Gaza which cause Israel to impose a closure and deprive workers of jobs and push them towards starvation.

PA Attorney-General Khalid Qidrah told *The Jerusalem Post* that the situation of the PA is not unlike that of Israel in 1948.

"One of the first decisions of [David] Ben-Gurion at that time was to give orders to bomb a ship carrying weapons and about 700 Israelis," referring to the *Alia* incident which nipped a possible civil war in the bud. "We too do not want to have two authorities in the same place."

Under a 1956 Egyptian ordinance, the Palestinian Police are to start collecting "arms, explosives, and toxic gas" and "will forbid their sale without a permit," following the PA's demand

that weapons be licensed by May 11.

Hamas has refused to hand in "weapons." "Any attempt to take our arms will be considered an attack against us," Hamas spokesman Mahmoud Zahar was quoted as saying. He warned that attacks against Israelis would continue.

In the Zaitoun neighborhood of Gaza City, where many arrests were made early this week, a poster of Yehia Ayyash, the bomb-maker considered responsible for all of the suicide bombs during the past year, was pasted to the wall of a mosque.

In the past, the PA compromised, allowing Islamic radicals to keep personal weapons at home. Qidrah said he does not think police would raid homes in search of weapons after the May 11 deadline, unless they have firm evidence they are there.

Arafat's advisers also drew up

recommendations on how to better halt Hamas by stopping the flow of money through the charity organizations and financial institutions it runs, Israel Television reported.

Saudi Arabia and private bene-

(Continued on Page 2)

Total closure of territories till Sunday

BILL HUTMAN and DAVID RUDGE

SECURITY officials recommended that a total closure be imposed on the territories during Pessah, but Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin decided to forbid Palestinians from entering Israel only on the holiday's first day, Police Minister Moshe Shahal said yesterday.

The closure will be in effect from Friday morning until before dawn Sunday, Shahal told reporters during a visit to the Kfar Sava police station.

However, the IDF spokesman said a final decision on the clo-

sure had not yet been made. Security officials have been calling for a long-term closure, which greatly eases the work of security forces, they say. Shahal has publicly backed the demand.

Other government leaders, including Rabin, however, have rejected the demand on grounds it creates hardship for the Palestinians and Palestinian Authority.

Police Inspector-General Asaf Hefetz yesterday called on the

public to be on full alert for terror attacks over Pessah.

He said that despite taking extra measures, police could not be everywhere and the public must be watchful and immediately report anything suspicious.

Hefetz said a complete closure is the most effective form of separation, but is not viable.

He maintained that the present system at crossing points from the territories is inefficient and new methods will have to be employed if the separation plan is accepted.

'Haberfeld misspent NIS 300,000 on cellular phones in election'

BILL HUTMAN

FORMER Histadrut chairman Haim Haberfeld used some NIS 300,000 in Histadrut funds for cellular phones for his campaign workers in the last Histadrut election, according to labor federation sources.

The Histadrut comptroller's office recently completed a probe of Haberfeld's phone expenses during the election, which is to be turned over soon to police, the sources said.

Haberfeld is expected to be summoned for questioning soon by police in connection with the Histadrut fraud case.

The new Histadrut leadership, headed by Chairman Haim Ramon, uncovered the campaign expenses which were charged to the Histadrut.

Among the expenses found were bills totaling NIS 765,444 for cellular phones. The sources said it was clear from the outset the many of those who received the phones were working for Haberfeld's campaign, and not the Histadrut.

Haberfeld has strongly denied he misused Histadrut funds.

Sources close to the investigation, meanwhile, said Transport Minister Yisrael Kessar, a former Histadrut chairman, and Labor MK Avi Yehzekel are to also be summoned for questioning soon.

Kessar and Yehzekel allegedly used Histadrut funds for their campaigns in the 1992 Labor Party Knesset primary.

Chinese premier hopes to visit soon

Jerusalem Post Staff

CHINESE Premier Li Peng said yesterday that he would like to take up Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's invitation to visit Israel soon. Israel Radio reported that Li may visit before the end of the year.

In an impromptu meeting with Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, who is visiting China to expand trade ties between the two countries, Li said he was moved by his meeting with Rabin in October 1993.

Shohat gave Li an update on economic projects planned for the Middle East, and said he hoped China would send a representative to the Amman economic conference in October.

Li told Shohat that he wished Israel success in its efforts to reach peace with its neighbors.

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Likud, Labor exchange sharp barbs

LIAT COLLINS

THE few dozen MKs who took time off from their Pessah vacation to return to the plenum yesterday had evidently lost none of their venom during their few days' holiday. The special session called by the opposition was filled with 16 motions for the agenda, most regarding the security situation.

Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu attacked both Yitzhak Rabin's government and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

He said the country is being led by dreamers and is like Chelm. He jeered Arafat's attempts at curbing terror, saying that the Palestinian leader had "a few hundred prisoners whom he constantly arrests and releases." He referred to PA Justice Minister Freih Abu Meidin who recently said that Fatah and Hamas are complementary organizations.

"The aim of both is to exterminate us," he said, adding that Arafat is worried that the Likud will return to power and frustrate his plans.

Some of his harshest jibes were at what he called "the government of the extreme left. It's the Meretz government. We've been left with just [Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi] Beilin, [Environment Minister Yossi] Sarid, and [Labor MK Haim] Ramon."

Yehoshua Matza (Likud) shouted at Rabin: "You're burying Jews." Rabin: "Chutzpah! What chutzpah!"

Matza: "You should be ashamed, defense minister."

Rabin: "Not one resident of the territories has been killed. Since January 1994, not one Gaza resident has been killed."

When the plenum calmed down, Netanyahu presented his five-point program. If the Likud were in power it would fight an all-out war on terror; not tie the IDF's hands be-

hind its back; not release prisoners; not allow a Palestinian state to be established; and would promote settlements, he said.

Ramon answered in the name of the Labor faction, although he is no longer a member of the Labor Party. He said that until the government "can be sure that Arafat was taking all possible steps against terror, it is impossible to make progress in the negotiations, even if we want to. And we do want to."

He called Netanyahu "a charlatan." "Whoever promises that there won't be terror is, at best, lying and, at worst, an idiot," he said, recalling that there had been terror under the Likud, too.

Sarid also attacked the opposition saying: "It's a ritual. You stand on the rostrum, throw a glance at the television [cameras], and talk and talk. You don't want a serious discussion, but a round of applause."

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres mocked Netanyahu, saying the Likud would send soldiers to go door-to-door in Gaza saying: "Hello, we're from the Likud. Is the Engineer [terrorist Yihia Ayyash] at your place?"

The discussions on the terror will continue after the recess.

In a later discussion on the government's building policy in Jerusalem, Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer promised his ministry would build 30,000 housing units within six years.

He stressed the importance of Ma'aleh Adumim, which he said "is not and never was a settlement," and said, "Jerusalem cannot be protected without Ma'aleh Adumim."

He came under strong attack from Meretz MK Naomi Chazan who accused him of continuing the policy of his Likud predecessor Ariel Sharon and expropriating Arab land.

RABIN

(Continued from Page One) Since then there have been 20 suicide bombings.

"Any attempt to link the suicide terror wave to Oslo is a lie," he said.

Since the beginning of 1994, 105 Israelis have been killed, 67 of them in five suicide attacks within the Green Line.

He repeated that it is very hard to fight this form of terror, which he repeatedly called "madness."

Rabin said that although the government is continuing to demand that Yasser Arafat take harsher measures against terrorists, Israel had also been unable to completely eliminate terror cells operating in the areas under its control.

He implied that the closure imposed on Gaza may have prevented terror attacks in the center of the country, as terrorists are finding it harder to move explosives across the Green Line. He said the terrorists preferred to hit Israeli cities, as this has a greater impact on the peace process.

He maintained that groups associated with Arafat stopped their terror attacks in the beginning of 1994, and that Arafat has lived up to his promise on that.

Rabin stressed that the security forces in Gaza are bearing the brunt of the terror attacks, and that out of the 21 deaths in Gaza

since 1994, 17 were security force members.

Rabin said the war on terror is made more difficult by the level of sophistication used by terrorists. He noted that he had this week seen forged work permits which are of such good quality that a soldier at a checkpoint could not be expected to detect them.

Reentering the autonomous Gaza Strip with troops in order to apprehend Hamas and Islamic Jihad cells and activists is a complicated and tricky undertaking whose effectiveness in the long run is moot, a senior IDF officer said yesterday.

"If the idea of an operation is an incursion, rather than conquering the Gaza Strip all over again, in the longer run we would achieve a limited military success and an enduring political problem," he said.

Meanwhile, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak said yesterday the PA crackdown may not be enough.

"Even if Arafat is rounding up Hamas and Islamic Jihad activists and even if his actions are successful, there will still be enough people in Gaza who want to hurt us," Shahak said in Beersheba. He also said he does not know the whereabouts of Yihia Ayyash, the so-called "Engineer" responsible for the preparation of suicide attacks and the man most wanted by security authorities.



Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak yesterday visits Shlomo Ben-Chaim, one of the wounded from Sunday's two suicide-bomber attacks, at Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem. Shahak also visited wounded at Soroka Hospital in Beersheba and Barzilai Hospital in Ashkelon.

Two recipients of Alisa Flatow's organs die

JUDY SIEGEL

TWO of the six recipients of organs from Alisa Flatow, the 20-year-old New Jersey student killed by the Kfar Darom terror blast, died yesterday.

Moshe Yamin, a 64-year-old Jerusalemite who had been suffering from lung disease for a decade, died when his body rejected the lung he had received at Sheba Hospital.

Sorana Shmulevich, a 42-year-old resident of Bat Yam, received one of Flatow's kidneys and her pancreas at Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital, but died of a heart attack, her third.

However, the recipient of Alisa's other lung, 49-year-old Malka Nir,

was doing well with what was her second lung transplant. She had received her first several years ago in London, but during the past year rejection set in.

The recipient of the second kidney, 43-year-old Arye Mendelson of Beersheba, and the recipient of her heart, 56-year-old Ya'acov Salinas of Ra'anana, were doing well yesterday.

A 23-year-old resident of Moshav Revava near Ashkelon who suffers from the genetic disorder Wilson's disease and received Alisa's liver was recovering at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem.

The condition causes the accumulation of copper in the liver, which is eventually fatal; a liver transplant is the only cure.

Early yesterday morning Flatow's body was flown home, accompanied by her father, Stephen, who said kaddish and Psalms in a brief ceremony at Ben-Gurion Airport. "I feel like an Israeli tonight," he said, adding that he would have no qualms about sending his four other children to Israel.

Stepping off the plane later at

Kennedy Airport, Flatow thanked the United States government and eulogized his daughter.

"Alisa loved the land and people of Israel. As her casket was loaded on the plane last night, she received an official state ceremony, which to me indicated they loved Alisa in return," he said.

Alisa Flatow was buried yesterday morning in her hometown of West Orange, New Jersey.

Meanwhile, AP reported the FBI is sending a team to Gaza to investigate Flatow's death, the State Department announced yesterday, adding that the perpetrators could be prosecuted in the US.

Hefetz: Police should be responsible for school security

DAVID RUDGE and Itim

POLICE Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz yesterday sharply criticized the Education Ministry's role in providing guards for schools, saying it should be the job of the police, in conjunction with the local authorities.

He said the NIS 120 million it cost to provide guards at schools could instead be used to improve police service, especially where it is most needed - at the local level.

"Who says that only schools need protection? Who says this is the only mission?" he said.

He said the police had put forward a detailed program for providing

protection to schools in addition to other services, including putting more fast response units on patrol.

"A guard at a school can't stop a suicide attacker from entering the school. The attacker would shoot him and go into the school. If he's not afraid of the army and not afraid to die, he won't be afraid of the school guard," Hefetz said.

"It's a joke. It's simply a psychological thing in the minds of parents. I certainly don't say that the guarding of schools now is better than it was before."

He stressed that with the NIS 120

million, the police could put 120 mobile units on the streets and improve protection for all.

"The bonus to society, instead of the investment by the Education Ministry in these guards who only guard schools, is completely clear."

Hefetz maintained that virtually everybody agreed with the police program, except the Education Ministry and, of course, parents who wanted to feel that their children were being protected.

"I think that even the prime minister realizes the mistake that has been made by previous govern-

ments, but it's difficult to change this. He's a politician, and he can't go against the wishes of parents," said Hefetz.

MK Limor Livnat (Likud), chairwoman of the Knesset subcommittee on school security, said that most members of the Education Committee, agree that police should insure school security and the Education Ministry should educate.

She added she would call an urgent meeting of the committee to initiate legislation transferring responsibility for school security to the police. She called on the government to support the change.

Peace Now wants Hebron events canceled

HERB KEINON

PEACE Now is trying to prevent a number of events organized by the Jewish settlement of Hebron from taking place on Tuesday, claiming they are an act of provocation.

Posters have gone up around Jerusalem calling upon people to go to Hebron on Tuesday, the third intermediate day of Pessah, to pray at the Machpela Cave and tour its Jewish sites. A cornerstone laying ceremony for a new apartment building in the Avraham Avim complex is also planned that day. The posters say the plans were coordinated with the IDF.

In a letter to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Peace Now wrote that "deployment of large IDF forces in an area of friction to give patronage to events that are nothing but a provocation."

ocation of the Arabs, is unnecessary during any period, but even more so during this period. We request that you do everything that is needed to cancel these events and prevent unnecessary danger to human life."

But David Wilder, assistant director of the Hebron Fund, said: "Hebron and the Machpela Cave have been a central tourism point since 1967, especially during the intermediate days of Pessah, and there is no reason why people should be prevented from coming to Hebron today."

The Machpela Cave, which is divided between a section for Jews and one for Muslims, will be open exclusively to Jews on Monday and Tuesday, the first time this has been

the case since it was reopened November 7.

The IDF spokesman said the army has not yet decided whether to allow the planned events.

GOVERNMENT OFFICES - STAFF HOLIDAYS

Due to staff holidays, most government offices will be closed during the Pessah holiday from Friday, April 14, 1995, to Friday, April 21, 1995, inclusive.

During this period, only emergency services will be provided to the public.

To obtain the telephone numbers of government offices on duty, call the duty officer of the Civil Service Commission, Tel. 02-705124/3.



Egged Offices Closed During Passover

During the intermediate days of Passover, there will be increased demand for seats on Egged buses. To meet this pressure, all bus drivers among Egged's administrative staff will be directed to drive services buses, during this period.

For this reason, all Egged offices at Beit Egged in Tel Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem will be closed to the public, from Sunday, April 16, and throughout the intermediate days of Passover.

The offices will reopen to the public on Sunday, April 23.

Egged wishes Bus Passengers, and All the House of Israel Hag Pessah Kasher Vesameah

TAAS gets NIS 600m. retirement payoff

LIAT COLLINS

THE Knesset Finance Committee - in a reduced format of chairman Gedalya Gal, MK Dan Tichon, and MK Pini Badash - yesterday approved the authorization for TAAS-Israel Industries to undertake NIS 600 million in debt to finance the retirement of some 1,350 workers.

Gal said the move could not be put off any longer, since delaying the workers' retirement would impinge on the TAAS recovery plan. Meanwhile, several MKs charged yesterday that high wages and pensions threaten to undermine the IDF's budget for equipment.

The MKs, members of a joint Finance, Foreign Affairs, and Defense subcommittee, heard a review from Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and OC Planning Branch Brig.-Gen. Uzi Dayan.

Although the discussion was entitled "The IDF budget in the face of threats," the talk focused on wages. "The outlay on wages is taking up a larger and larger part of the budget," said chairman Gal, who asked that the question of personnel cuts be checked.

Soldier hurt by gunfire in Gaza

AN IDF soldier was lightly injured last night when a patrol jeep came under fire in Gush Katif.

The jeep was stationed on an Israel-Palestinian Authority border area, military sources said.

The soldiers returned fire and launched searches for gunmen, finding a backpack and foot prints leading into the PA-controlled autonomous areas. (Itim)

ARAFAT

(Continued from Page One)

factors in the Gulf states are considered large donors to Hamas charities. The report could not be immediately confirmed by Palestinian officials.

Meanwhile, Qidrah said the trial of Abdullah Shami, an Islamic Jihad leader jailed since January 24, would not take place on Sunday as previously scheduled, because the charges against him have not yet been formulated.

"He may be the first man in Islamic Jihad, but we need more time to investigate Shami because he has connections which reach everyone related to violent offenses against the security of our people," Qidrah said.

Some 60 additional suspected Hamas supporters have been arrested over the past two days, including two journalists, Imad Franji and Ala Masharawi, who work for Al-Quds, the largest Palestinian daily, which is normally considered pro-PLO.

Masharawi, was released yesterday, relatives told the Post.

Merom names families interested in leaving Gaza

HERB KEINON

LABOR MK Haggai Merom, campaigning to get settlers to voluntarily leave the Gaza Strip, yesterday released a list of 13 families from eight Gaza settlements that are interested in moving.

Claudine Hazan, of Pe'at Sedei, said her family wants to leave "because of the security situation. I worry about my two sons who travel the roads every day. Sunday's attack was expected, and we expect more."

The Hazan family moved across the Green Line to Gush Katif seven years ago because they "were looking for something different." She said they never thought the security situation would deteriorate as much as it has.

Merom said he has dozens of names of other settlers who are interested in leaving voluntarily, but are wary about making their feelings public. He said he will bring the settlers to meet with other Knesset members in order to give the matter a push "and widen the circle."

Dalia Yitzhaki, spokeswoman for the Gaza Coast Regional Council, said Merom's list of 13 families is an insignificant minority when talking about a region that has more than 1,000 families.

Yitzhaki said that in the last year some 150 families have moved to Gush Katif, including 10 each in the settlements of Netzarim and Kfar Darom.

"The same people who spoke to Merom have been speaking to the press for a year," Yitzhaki said. "It is the same group. If they want to leave, let them go."

UAE opposes economic projects with Israel

MUSCAT (Reuters) - The United Arab Emirates yesterday told a financial conference that setting up joint projects with Israel would be more dangerous for Arabs than Israel's deployment of nuclear weapons.

"Since the establishment of Israel, it has been looking at integrating its economy with the countries of the region through joint projects," said UAE Finance and Industry Minister Ahmad Bin Humaid al-Tajer. "Israel's achievement of this goal would be more dangerous than its owning weapons of mass destruction and nuclear warheads."



The Government of Israel

mourns the death of

Sgt. AVRAHAM (Avivi) ARDITI
ALISA FLATOW

ה"ר

who were killed in the murderous suicide bombing near Kfar Darom and extends sincere condolences to the bereaved families on their tragic loss.

To Lucy Kasavi

Our deepest condolences on the death of your

MOTHER

You Colleagues, FBIS, American Embassy, Tel Aviv

Gunmen slaughter 28 Rwandan refugees in Zaire

RAIDERS armed with assault rifles and grenades killed 28 people on an island in Lake Kivu and at a nearby Rwandan refugee camp in Zaire, a UN agency said yesterday.

Fifty-four people were wounded in the attacks, 16 seriously. Many were women and children housed in the camp on the western shore of the lake, which separates Rwanda and Zaire.

The area has been the scene of numerous cross-border attacks, some ascribed to bandits, others to former Rwandan soldiers and militiamen living in exile in Zaire.

UN officials said they were not sure if the attacks were conducted by Rwandan Tutsis in retaliation for raids into Rwanda by extremist Hutus, many of whom are housed in Zairian refugee camps. "We're stumped," said Peter Kessler, spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. "It's really unclear who the perpetrators were or what the motive was."

REID G. MILLER
NAIROBI, Kenya

But there is a great deal of anger and resentment within Rwanda over what Tutsi survivors of last year's genocide see as favored treatment of Rwandan Hutu refugees.

The new, Tutsi-led government in Rwanda has halted UN food shipments to some one million Rwandan refugees in dozens of camps near Bukavu and Goma, Zaire.

And thousands of Rwandans demonstrated Tuesday outside the headquarters of the UN mission in the capital of Kigali, demanding that it leave the Central African nation.

Hutu extremists in and out of the former Rwandan government are blamed for last year's orgy of massacres in which 500,000 men, women and children were shot, clubbed and hacked to death. The victims were predominantly Tutsis.

Details of Tuesday night's attacks near the Rwandan border were sketchy, but UN officials said the first assault was on Iwinda, a Zairian island in the southern tip of Lake Kivu.

Ron Redmond, spokesman for the UN refugee agency in Geneva, said the assailants arrived on the island at 10:20 p.m. in three barges and a rubber boat.

There, the uniformed raiders killed two people and wounded five, apparently all Zaireans, Redmond said. The island houses no refugees.

"They then went onto the western shore," Redmond said. "They surrounded a refugee camp called Birava" and opened fire with automatic rifles and grenades.

Twenty-six refugees in the camp two kilometers from the island were killed and 49 wounded, 16 of them seriously — many of them women and children, he said. (AP)

KGB secret archives on Hitler to be published

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Secret files on the life, death and remains of Adolf Hitler will be opened for the first time next month when a Russian publishing house releases a computer program based on data from the KGB security police.

Officials from the Progress Publishing Group said yesterday that their multi-media program would prove beyond doubt that Hitler committed suicide in 1945 and Soviet authorities burned the remains and dumped the ashes 25 years later.

"This really is the final page in Hitler's story," said Progress official Sergei Zavyalov.

Official Soviet historians had long insisted there was no direct evidence that Hitler committed suicide on April 30, 1945.

Some suggested that Hitler, as well as other senior Nazis, might have escaped and gone into hiding.

But earlier this month Russian and German media published documents proving that Hitler died in 1945 and was buried on a

Soviet army base in the East German city of Magdeburg.

They also displayed a 1970 order from then KGB chief Yuri Andropov that the remains be burned and the ashes dumped.

The one-page report by a KGB special squad forms part of the English-language computer archive, called simply "Hitler".

It says the remains of Hitler, his wife Eva Braun, Hitler's propaganda chief Joseph Goebbels, his wife and six children had been burnt to ashes on April 5, 1970. "This certificate that the burning actually took place ends guesses and reports of previous decades," Zavyalov said.

Stored on a laser disc, the program it comprises 170 pages of documents, hundreds of photographs and more than 30 minutes of documentary film. Progress officials were coy about how much it would cost.

"Most of the documents, pictures and films, as well as pieces of evidence by Nazi officials have never been published before," Zavyalov said.

Winnie reinstated — for now

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — President Nelson Mandela reinstated his estranged wife, Winnie, as a deputy cabinet minister yesterday in an apparent prelude to firing her again.

The government said Mrs. Mandela's legal challenge to her dismissal March 27 had influenced the decision to reinstate her as deputy minister of arts, culture, science and technology. Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, in a statement, said the original firing had been "technically and procedurally invalid."

Among other things, the dismissal letter did not carry the presidential seal as required by law. By reinstating his wife, Mandela would be in position to fire her again observing all the legal niceties and avoiding a costly court battle.

Mrs. Mandela went to court Monday to contest the firing, calling it unfair and demanding the reasons.



Russian demonstrators demand the resignation of President Boris Yeltsin in Moscow yesterday. The antisemitic placard (which rhymes in Russian) reads: 'The constitution was slapped together by Clinton Bill and Boris — the idiot.'

'Japanese sect tested gas on members'

MOSCOW (AP) — A former member of the Japanese religious sect suspected in the Tokyo subway nerve gas attack has testified in court that the sect tested an unidentified nerve gas on its Russian followers.

Marina Romandina, 19, appeared in Moscow court Tuesday on behalf of a parents' group that is suing the Aum Shinri Kyo sect for corrupting Russian youth.

Romandina said a nerve gas was used on fellow sect members

to "help the believers better penetrate other worlds," Japanese NTV reporter Sergei Kotsuba, who attended the trial, said yesterday.

Romandina said the gas was not used on her, he said.

Japanese police are looking into the group's possible links to the March 20 nerve gas attacks in the Tokyo subway, which left 11 people dead and 5,500 others sickened.

Romandina said many sect

members fell sick after the nerve gas tests, suffering stomach problems, headaches, vomiting and nosebleeds.

Also yesterday, President Boris Yeltsin ordered an investigation into Aum Shinri Kyo's activities in Russia.

The sect, whose name means Sublime Truth, has about 35,000 followers across Russia, and about 10,000 followers in Japan. It also has branches in United States and Germany.

Shells blast downtown Sarajevo

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — At least one mortar shell hit a busy road in downtown Sarajevo yesterday, wounding seven people and prompting officials to sound a general alert urging residents to get off the streets.

The shell landed on a road between the former Holiday Inn, home to most of the foreign press and diplomatic corps, and the city's old railway station. The road has been crowded recently as police have closed off the city's major thoroughfare nearby because of sniper fire.

French peacekeepers took an 18-year-old youth with severe head wounds to the hospital, said UN spokesman Maj. Pierre Chavancy. Six other wounded people also were taken to hospitals, medical officials said.

Chavancy said the United Nations recorded two explosions in the 11:50 a.m. shelling, but Bosnian police reported only one 82mm mortar, which they said was fired from a Serb-held area.

Three hours later, an Italian journalist was slightly wounded by gunfire while driving from downtown to the airport, officials said.

Plans for a visit to Sarajevo by international mediators were canceled after Bosnian Serb military officials refused to guarantee the plane's safety, said UN spokesman Alexander Ivanko.

Sarajevo's airport has been closed since Saturday when 10 bullets hit a U.S. plane flying for the United Nations.

Meanwhile, one shell landed on the Muslim enclave of Gorazde yesterday morning, hours after some 20 shells hit the site Tuesday night, UN officials said. The officials blamed the attacks on the Bosnian Serbs, who have been battling the Muslim-led government for nearly three years.

After Tuesday's attacks, NATO planes buzzed the area for nearly a half-hour until shelling stopped, but were not asked to bomb any Serb targets, said Capt. Jim Mitchell, a NATO spokesman.

The United Nations said there were no casualties in Gorazde. Bosnia's state-run radio claimed several people were wounded.

Battlefields were tense across much of the country.

MANPOWER BRANCH Defense Service Law (Consolidated Version) 1986

Order to Report for Registration at District Recruiting Offices

Male and female Israeli citizens and permanent residents, born between April 8, 1978 and October 1, 1978, both dates inclusive, must report for registration at their district recruiting office, in accordance with the Order to Report for Registration which they have received.

Men and women born between the above dates who have not received an Order to Report for Registration must register at 8:00 a.m., at one of the recruiting offices mentioned in Table A, on the date appropriate for their date of birth, as given in Table B.

- TABLE A
- Jerusalem — Recruiting Office, 103 Rehov Raishi (Mekor Baruch)
 - Tel Hashomer Recruiting Office, Tel Hashomer IDF Base (near Kiron)
 - Tel Hashomer Recruiting Office - Shaalvut - Tel Hashomer IDF Base (near Kiron)
 - Haifa — Recruiting Office, 12 Rehov Omar el-Khayam
 - Beersheba — Recruiting Office, 22 Rehov Yehoshua
 - Tiberias — Recruiting Office, Rehov Natrat

TABLE B

DATE OF BIRTH		DATE OF REGISTRATION	
BETWEEN	AND	MEN	WOMEN
April 8, 1978	April 22, 1978	April 24, 1995	May 31, 1995
April 23, 1978	May 7, 1978	April 25, 1995	June 1, 1995
May 8, 1978	May 22, 1978	April 28, 1995	June 6, 1995
May 23, 1978	June 6, 1978	April 27, 1995	June 7, 1995
June 7, 1978	June 20, 1978	April 30, 1995	June 8, 1995
June 21, 1978	July 5, 1978	May 1, 1995	June 29, 1995
July 6, 1978	July 20, 1978	May 2, 1995	July 13, 1995
July 21, 1978	August 4, 1978	May 7, 1995	August 1, 1995
August 5, 1978	August 18, 1978	May 8, 1995	August 15, 1995
August 19, 1978	Sept. 2, 1978	May 9, 1995	August 31, 1995
Sept. 3, 1978	Sept. 17, 1978	May 10, 1995	Sept. 14, 1995
Sept. 18, 1978	Oct. 1, 1978	May 11, 1995	Oct. 2, 1995

Those liable for National Service or Reserve Service

Male Israeli citizens and permanent residents, born between January 1, 1955 and April 7, 1978, and who immigrated to Israel between October 1, 1949, and November 15, 1994, and who do not receive an Order to Report for Registration for service in the security services by June 19, 1995, must report at their nearest Recruiting Office on June 20, 1995, at 8:00 a.m. Those reporting must appear on the date and at the time noted in the order they receive or, if they do not receive such an order, on the date noted above. It is strictly forbidden to come at a time other than that noted in the order, unless prior permission has been obtained from the officer in charge of the recruiting office.

Those reporting should bring their identity card or registration slip they have received from the Ministry of the Interior, or their birth certificate. Immigrants should also bring their teudat olah and passport. A woman who is married, is the mother of a child, or is pregnant, and who does not have a certificate testifying that she is legally exempt from defense duty, is required to come to a recruiting office and to bring documents testifying to her personal and family status, in order that she may be issued a certificate exempting her from duty.

From the date of publication of this notice, everyone who is required to report, and who wishes to go abroad must obtain a permit to do so from the officer in charge of a recruiting office.

Aluf-Mishne Nathan Rosenbaum
Chief Recruiting Officer, Manpower Branch
NOTE: The complete text of the Order to Report for Registration will be published in Kovetz Hatakanot. April 1995

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Simpson lawyer keeps attacking investigator

LOS ANGELES — Defense lawyer Barry Schick continued Tuesday to trash the prosecution's forensic evidence against O.J. Simpson by showing that the supervising investigator at the murder scene knew little about how to preserve it for DNA testing, and by highlighting lapses in his collection procedures.

Investigator Dennis Fung looked haggard, with bags under his eyes as he took the witness stand for the fourth day. He appeared not to have recovered from last week's grueling cross-examination by Schick, despite a five-day hiatus in his testimony because of jury problems.

Fung, who admitted last week that serious mistakes were made in preserving evidence at the scene where Simpson's ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman were murdered last June, was not so willing Tuesday to cave in to Schick's suggestions that the physical evidence was botched.

But he could not withstand Schick's probing cross-examination, which raised questions about how competent he was in keeping the evidence from becoming contaminated.

Also Tuesday, the defense filed a wide-ranging motion asking

Superior Court Judge Lance Ito to determine if the prosecution has instigated investigations into selected jurors to rid the panel of members it perceives as favoring the defense or to trigger a mistrial; to replace sheriff's deputies with social workers or other civilian county personnel as custodians of the jurors; to determine whether there was "good cause" to dismiss juror Jeanette Harris last week; to hold hearings before dismissing any more jurors over the objection of the defense; and to dismiss the indictment against the former football great rather than declare a mistrial if the jury dwindles to less than 12.

The motion was spurred by Harris' dismissal last Wednesday and subsequent television interviews in which she predicted a hung jury and said that sheriff's deputies were fomenting racism. Harris has been subpoenaed to meet with Ito in chambers.

Fung, who was in charge of collecting the evidence in the case, testified that he had no experience in blood testing and that his knowledge of DNA testing and its particular evidence-collection requirements was limited to one brief lecture more than a year ago.

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

will be closed
for the Pesach holiday
from Friday, April 14, through Saturday, April 22

The University extends holiday greetings to its students, graduates, staff and retirees

Note: The Cosell Center will remain open, except the squash courts. The Veterinary Teaching Hospital in Rishon LeZion will be open for emergency cases only.

Shells blast downtown Sarajevo

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — At least one mortar shell hit a busy road in downtown Sarajevo yesterday, wounding seven people and prompting officials to sound a siren alerting residents to evacuate the streets.

The shell landed on a road between the former Yugoslav army and the city's old railway station. The road has been crowded recently as police have closed off the area because of sniper fire. French peacekeepers took no action, according to the Bosnian Serb spokesman Maj. Zvezdan Jelic. Six other wounded people were taken to hospital, medical officials said.

The United Nations recorded two explosions in the city on Saturday, but no police reported any deaths or injuries. The explosions were reported from a Serb-held area.

Three hours later, an Italian plane was slightly wounded by a mortar while driving from the airport to the city center.

For a visit to Sarajevo, international mediators were ordered after Bosnian Serb officials refused to guarantee the safety of the UN peacekeepers, Alexander Hales said.



The look of the season, says top stylist Shuki Zikri, is softer, fluffier and more romantic.

Hair goes 'natural' for summertime

FLAIR
GREER FAY CASHMAN

THOUGH fashion has taken an extensive retroactive trip through the 20th century this decade, hairstyles are bypassing the rigid geometric cuts of the Seventies and Eighties.

The look, says Shuki Zikri, stylist for the nation's beautiful people, is softer, fluffier and more romantic, with hair falling like a soft cap around the head and gently framing the face.

Conceived as a casual and uncombed look, without being unkempt, the summer style is only slightly bouffant, rising from the crown in a natural, windswept manner.

Colorwise, the extremes run the gamut from classic blonde to natural black, with interesting tones on shades in the reds and light browns.

"Rich warm colors will be the dominants in hair" this summer, Zikri says.

Bangs will be long, curtaining the eyes and sometimes falling to well below the cheekbones. The length of the bangs is in line with the natural, uncontrived image, giving the impression that hair has simply fallen forward on the face.

The added bonus is that because of its length, the bangs can easily be integrated with the rest of the hair for more formal, off-the-face styling.

They diet in cyberspace

LIFE-STYLE
CAROLE SUGARMAN

I tried to post a computer message on America Online's Weight Watchers bulletin board. But all the space was taken by countless people corresponding about their flab.

A former bulimic wonders, in megabytes, whether Weight Watchers is appropriate for her. Another woman laments that hormone-replacement therapy has made it difficult to lose weight.

Then come the endless requests for recipes and eating tips: "Help! I need a great low-fat snack idea. I crave salt and eat too many chips or nachos. Does anyone have any suggestions other than carrots or fruit?"

It's a fascinating social experiment and an untested new technique for losing weight. Diet support groups are expanding in cyberspace like a soufflé in the oven. And the most revolutionary aspect of it is this: On a computer screen, no one can see the thunder in your thighs.

On the other hand, "I think on-line dieting is great, but in conjunction with human contact," wrote one subscriber. "One of the behaviors I associate with my former fat life was isolation. I tend to get out more now and deal with people better. Attending the WW [Weight Watchers] meetings in person forced me to deal with my weight and not deny it, which is possible when you're alone in your apartment."

All this activity may be news to the Weight Watchers corporation, which has no formal link to America Online. No nutrition professionals lead the on-line WW meetings or monitor the message boards, and sometimes misinformation and pitches for hokey diet products go unquestioned.

Weight Watchers' spokeswoman Linda Carilli said that going on-line is "not on the radar screen for Weight Watchers in the immediate future," and that "we wouldn't do something that didn't have support for our business." (Translation: There's no money in it.)

Meanwhile, participants on the Weight Watchers message board periodically hold their own Sunday-afternoon "meetings," in which everybody signs on and chats back and forth.

"I'm 70 pounds [32 kg.] overweight, terribly depressed and I want my life back. I need support from people who understand. How do I dip into myself and find the motivation?" one asked.

There were compassionate responses. "We are here for you." (The Washington Post)

It's not Pessah without a Power Rangers kippa

OFF THE SHELF
MARTHA MESELS

THERE are about 24 shopping hours left until Pessah, counting the overnight marathons at many of the chain stores. This column will offer some last-minute suggestions for gifts and for finishing touches to your holiday table.

For the men and boys in your life, you can rush right out for an authentic Mighty Morphin Power Rangers kippa. It is made of white felt, in two versions: one is printed with the images of the four male Power Rangers; the other has three Power Rangers, plus the official copyright emblem of the popular TV-series characters.

The female Power Rangers were deliberately omitted lest they offend some potential buyers.

The manufacturers, Gaby Designs of Jerusalem, claim it is the only such kippa in the world. The copyrights were obtained from Saban Entertainment, which controls all local usages of Power Rangers images.

The kippot come in sizes "small" and "medium," and retail here for NIS 18-20. They are available mainly at shops for ritual objects and at tourist shops.

If you're determined to find them before the Seder, please don't phone me.

Try any of the following stores: in Jerusalem at Shorashim, Matanot Yerushalayim, Alexander on the Ben-Yehuda Mall or Chen Eilat in Mea She'arim. In Tel Aviv try Dr. T. 155 Dizengoff; in Ra'anana, Toby on Ahuza Street; in Herzliya, at the Habad shop; and in Netanya at Hidar Mizra.



KING DAVID'S Caps is a gift fit for a king, yet suited to a commoner's purse.

It is a unique combination of six Oppenheimer bittersweet chocolate cups in gold foil holders, plus a miniature bottle of Carmel's Rothschild White Muscat wine. The idea is to serve the sweet dessert wine in the chocolate cups, then eat them.

The contents are all parve and kosher for Pessah.

The black-and-gold hexagonal gift box sells for NIS 14 at most chain stores.

FOR FRIENDS who lack a green thumb, you might consider a potted bonsai tree made of plastic. Imported from China by Gad Enterprises, these fake dwarf trees are remarkably good imitations of live miniature trees — which some nature lovers already consider to be a travesty of nature. The importers say genuine bonsai trees are difficult to raise at home.

These plastic trees — which come in several species — sell for NIS 48 apiece. They are available at the Knei u'Vei and Ace do-it-yourself chains, and at some specialty florists. The importers hope that plant nurseries will also soon carry this phony flora.

TIRED OF conventional horseradish with beets (chein) on the Seder table? This year you can try Rokeach's Old Vienna white horseradish sauce, imported from the US with the OU hechsher.

According to the original English-language label, it is made with cottonseed oil, cider vinegar, sugar, fresh horseradish, salt, egg yolks, flavorings and preservative.

The Hebrew label on the back, however, is incorrect. It was a mistranslation done abroad of the non-Pessah version of the product, which contains soy oil, corn syrup and mustard powder, all of which Ashkenazim do not use on Pessah.

The importers apologize and assure me that the English is correct and the OU hechsher for Pessah is valid.

The product is imported by Wolf Brothers, who make Matzot Aviv. It sells for NIS 8.50 per

236 ml. jar at chain stores.

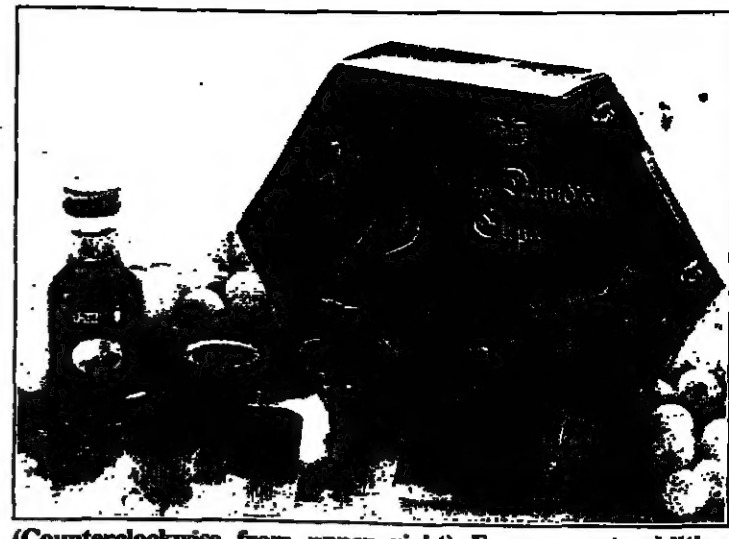
White horseradish sauce is particularly suitable with beef.

Those who want to stick to traditional horseradish with beets have a wide choice of brands, including Strauss, Sabra and Jenny's.

BEN & JERRY's newest ice-cream flavor is White Russian, which contains coffee liqueur. It is named after a cocktail made from coffee liqueur, vodka and sweet cream.

The new flavor honors Ben & Jerry's joint-venture US-Russian ice-cream shop and factory in Karelia, Russia, opened in 1988 during the Cold War. The White Russian ice cream is kosher, for Pessah under Yavne Rabbinat supervision.

Because it contains alcohol, it does not freeze as solidly as other



(Counterclockwise from upper right) For a sweet addition to your Seder table, Oppenheimer's King David's Caps combine bittersweet chocolate and sweet dessert wine; with 'Hot Looks' watches, you can have a different patterned watch for each day; plastic bonsai trees need no watering; Ben & Jerry's newest White Russian flavor can be enjoyed on the holiday, as it is kosher for Pessah.

distilled from a limited quantity of kosher wine made specifically for this purpose. The vermouth is imported by Carmel Zvi, which makes Segal and Askalon wines.

Customers have a choice of Martini Bianco (sweet white vermouth), Rosso (sweet red) and Extra Dry, at a list price of NIS 45 per 750 ml. bottle. (Super-Sol sells the Bianco for NIS 37, the others for NIS 39.50.) The front label is the usual Italian one; the back label carries the kashrut information in Hebrew.

AN EXTRAVAGANT afikoman present, guaranteed to rile militant feminists, is a makeup table for very little girls, from Chicco of Italy. The multicolored plastic table, which plays a melody, is equipped with a mirror, comb and brush, cosmetic bottles, and a battery-operated hair drier which really blows air. At NIS 302, the Chicco dressing table is available mainly at baby-goods shops, including the Rav-Kat chain.

Magic is a game of battle in which the players represent sorcerers trying to drive each other from the lands of Dominia. The cards stand for lands, creatures, spells and artifacts needed to defeat opponents.

I was particularly curious about the cards for forests, mountains, plains and swamps which you add "to your mana pool," and wonder if it drew inspiration from our "mana," which is very apt for the Pessah season.

The game was invented by Richard Garfield, a mathematician from Seattle, and is made by Wizards of the Coast, Inc., based in Washington state. Over a billion sets of cards have sold in less than three years.

Booster packs of 15 cards are available here for NIS 13.90. The game is for two to five players, with no age stipulation.

The importer, Mitzuv International (03-525-5524), says it is suitable for ages 10 and up. In my opinion, the rules are much too complicated for youngsters under 13, especially if English is a second language.

THE BRITISH Raj has come to Tel Aviv. If you have a spare hour in the city between now and next Thursday, you might want to drop in on an unusual exhibition and sale entitled "Out of India."

It is a collection of antique furniture and furnishings, all of it from India's colonial period and some of it dating from the turn of the century or earlier. Two containers of furniture were shipped here from India by Calcutta-born Ruth Rembaum, who used to broadcast here in English on Kol Yisrael and now lives in New Delhi with her husband, Art Max, who is the Associated Press bureau chief for South Asia.

She organized the exhibition with Aya Eshet, an Israeli Indophile who was a longtime spokeswoman for Teddy Kolek.

Out of India is on display in a ground-floor flat at 39 Mazeh St., corner of Rothschild Boulevard (directly opposite Cafe Lilith on Mazeh). The hours are 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., including Shabbat — apart from Seder night.

Among the items on display and for sale are iron candlesticks with animal motifs, NIS 300 apiece; storm lanterns from sailing ships, at NIS 800; a bird cage with peacock decor, NIS 2,400; and a four-poster bed complete with mosquito netting, NIS 6,700. All the wood furniture is from teak or rosewood.

The most valuable item in the show is something called a campaign chest. This was the type of transportable desk used by British generals in the field, and the one on display here is priced at NIS 7,000. There are also indoor writing desks at more moderate prices.

People buying items will be asked to leave them on display until the exhibit closes. For details, call Ruth Rembaum on her cellular phone, 052-500989.

I was more impressed with the Gallery classic analog watches for women and men imported from Hong Kong by R. Katz Ltd. of Tel Aviv and sold at jewelry shops throughout the country. Anyone buying a Gallery for NIS 140 or more this month should receive a gift of a second wristwatch, reportedly valued at NIS 70. It has a very clear face showing all 12 numerals — which makes it almost a novelty these days.

MAGIC: The Gathering is a fantasy card game reminiscent of the Dungeons and Dragons craze. In its original US edition, the popular game has just reached this country. It is being sold at bookshops and toy stores and is soon to be at newspaper kiosks as well.

The basic deck with 60 cards, priced at NIS 39.90, is considered a starter set for two to five players. Over time, the idea is to win, trade and buy additional cards, of which there are more than 300.

OFFERS

SOFA BED — beautiful, NIS 300. 03-5406911.
LEE JEANS — USA, waist 42, straight leg, new, NIS 100. 03-603987, 8-10 a.m.
BACK CARRIER — Chico, like new, NIS 75; electronic cat door, new, NIS 75. 03-5717493.
9 ALBUMS — many classic records, NIS 150 for clarity. 03-590035.
4 YAMPULINS — heavy duty, American army issue, 2x3 meters, gronomated, NIS 40 each (good for covers, camping). 03-9606619, NS.
SOFA BED — NIS 200; color TV, NIS 100. 02-612269, NS.
TROUBLED EDEN — book by Chaim Berman, NIS 25. 04-242207.
3 LOUDSPEAKERS IN CABINETS — NIS 200; mirrored, lighted medicine cabinet, NIS 50; bathroom sink, NIS 50. 04-57312.
LYLE PRICE GUIDE — *Millaris, Arms & Armour*, unused copy, obtainable here, NIS 100. 02-67077.
FOLDABLE BED — Italian-made, great for guests, NIS 150; foldable table, sturdy and handsome, NIS 75; both, NIS 200. 02-73221.
2 PESSAH SINK DRAINER SIDES — tin, FREE; baby carry cot, NIS 75; small low

WANTED

CAR SEAT FOR TODDLER — new or used in good condition. Ruth, 08-224003, afternoons.
DESK — wooden, in good condition. 03-5406911.
CUBAN CIGARS — also March '91 issue of *Playboy*. 06-567331.
BED SETTEE — child's bed for 1 1/2 years old, cupboard with many drawers. 09-628985.
REFRIGERATOR — in good condition, desperately needed as donation for senior citizens' club, will pick up. 02-811958.
LE ROUGE ET LE NOIR — Jordan TV. Does anyone have a video of Parts 1 and 2? 04-610733.

EXCHANGE

25 ENGLISH BOOKS — hard & soft cover, for English/Hebrew dictionary. 04-229292.
HEADMASTER — teacher in math, physics, MIS physics, offers lessons in exchange for portrait-drawing and/or painting lessons from qualified artist. Harry, 02-34362.
BOOKS ON TAPE — We want to start a free exchange service. 19963.
PETS
PUPPIES — lovely, adorable, healthy puppies looking for a warm home. 08-39395.
WANTED — unusual animals: turtles, rabbits, etc., for shelter for emotionally disturbed boys. 02-850851.
DESPERATELY SEEKING LOST CAT — black, male, yellow collar, Palmah area. 02-633849.
3 KITTENS — playful, beautiful and trained, for immediate adoption. 02-662689, NS.
PART-ROTTWEILER — young, spayed, vaccinated, gentle with kids and cats; also, various beautiful cats. To good homes. 02-415865.
BEAUTIFUL KITTENS AND CATS — free to gentle, sensitive, responsible people.

BARGAIN BASEMENT

Sorry, no listings accepted without a coupon

BARGAIN BASEMENT accepts ads of up to 20 words free of charge on these conditions: Only one ad per household per week. THE LIMIT per ad in the "bargain" section is a TOTAL of NIS 300, and the price of each item must be stated in shekels. The following ads are NOT accepted: business offers; apartment sales, rentals or exchanges; car sales; job offers; situations wanted; solicitations for donations; offers of marriage or other personal relationship. Ads must be printed in English and submitted on the attached coupon. ADS MAY NOT BE SUBMITTED BY PHONE OR FAX. The right to reject or edit any ad is reserved.

Ads must reach The Bargain Basement, The Jerusalem Post, Rehov Yirmiyahu in Ramatna (POB 81, Jerusalem 91 000) by NOON Sunday of the week of publication. Because of space limitations, ads may be held over and published the following week.

The price of each item must be stated

Name _____
Address _____ Tel. _____
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Biology lesson

THE inveterate criminal who suddenly finds religion in jail, and thereafter reacts indignantly to any suggestion that he is not of impeccable character, is a well-worn cliché of aberrant human behavior. Enter Saddam Hussein and his cohorts, caught red-handed with their bloodstained hands in the till in Kuwait, and removed from civilized international society because of it.

Now, once again, we must endure innocent-faced spokesmen for the Iraqi clique on our television screens as they indignantly protest about conspiracies to accuse them falsely of hiding a biological weapons program. Even more irritating is the growing chorus of glib do-gooders who defy common sense to swallow the tall tales of the condemned criminals.

The relentless chief United Nations weapons inspector, Rolf Ekeus, has issued a report saying Baghdad may be trying again to wind up its secret biological warfare program. Ekeus has consistently shown a healthy disregard for the lies and denials that have poured out of Saddam's bunkers since the end of the Gulf War and his UN team has an impressive record of ferreting out and destroying the dictator's doomsday toys.

Once again Ekeus has refused to bow to pressures for the easing of sanctions on Iraq. For him, it's a matter not of politics but of simple arithmetic, as his report clearly states. Iraqi officials have been unable to deny that Saddam imported 39 tons of bacteria-making material since 1988 and Ekeus finds 17 tons totally unaccounted for. The Iraqis say the complex growth medium, in which viruses and bacteria are cultivated, was used for domestic medical purposes. Ekeus says 200 kg per year would be the maximum amount legitimate hospitals or laboratories could use. And those mysterious 17 tons are still missing.

"This importation of media by types, quantities, and packaging is grossly out of proportion to Iraq's stated requirements for hospital use,"

the Ekeus report says. "With Iraq's failure to account for the use of these items and materials for legitimate purposes, the only conclusion that can be drawn is that there is a high risk that they had been purchased and used for a proscribed purpose - acquisition of biological warfare agent."

Never at a loss for a new tactic, Iraqi officials have denied every shred of evidence that Saddam is unrepentant in seeking to rebuild a dangerous arsenal. They have zeroed in on "the suffering of the Iraqi people" which, as they have noticed, attracts swarms of do-gooder and apologist gadflies. They have mixed the propaganda with confused threats against "those who fail to react positively" to Iraq's "compliance" with Gulf War disarmament resolutions. Nouri Marsoumi, an information ministry official, said if UN Security Council members did not halt "the exposed American ploy" then Iraq would have to react and "put an end to it on its own" - surely the mother of all blusters.

Unfortunately, Baghdad has far too many unwitting or misguided allies in its classic disinformation campaign. Instead of fuming about Saddam's attempt to make biological weapons which could kill millions, or his jailing of innocent Americans for eight years, far too many commentators this week have been quoting "shocked" Saddam stooges in Iraq. "Oh God, how long must we wait?" lamented "a former schoolteacher" in a Baghdad street. "We're angry, but what can we do?" said a fishmonger "who had hoped to hear good news when Ekeus reported to the UN." Saddam is surely grateful for such articulate fishmongers and former teachers who can tell foreign media the honest truth.

Before shedding crocodile tears for Iraq's suffering people, Saddam's apologists should ponder a small truism. In normal countries, society puts the criminal in jail. In Saddam's case, the criminal remains free but has imprisoned all of Iraqi society.

The PA crackdown

ISRAELIS may be forgiven for viewing the crackdown on Hamas and Islamic Jihad in Gaza with a grain of skepticism. True, for the first time since the Palestinian Authority was established, Gaza's special security courts have sentenced Jihad activists to jail terms, including a life sentence. And it's true, too, that for the first time a warning has gone out that all weapons must be registered. (Not requisitioned, as the Voice of Israel radio, perhaps swept by wishful thinking, erroneously reported yesterday.)

In the roundup following the two suicide bombings on Sunday more than 200 suspects were detained. But as Peace Watch - the organization monitoring both sides' adherence to the agreement - has pointed out, there have been 11 such roundups since the Palestinian Police entered Gaza. In most cases the detainees were released within days. Only in past months have a few dozen Democratic Front, Hamas, and Jihad operatives been kept in prison.

Though the current roundup seems more serious than its predecessors, there is no indication of any genuine desire to subdue the terrorist organizations. What seems to motivate Yasser Arafat is the fear that Israel would effectively stop the process and refuse to withdraw the army from Arab population centers in Judea and Samaria, and the prospect that the US will refuse to grant the PLO funds, citing its inaction on terrorism as the reason.

Moreover, Arafat seems to be using the "crackdown" as a pretext for arresting political rivals who challenge his rule and journalists who write against him, not to hunt down the masterminds and coordinators of the actions against Israel.

Those who have suggested that Arafat the Nobel Prize winner is a changed man may be startled by his charges that Israel is arming Hamas to foment a Palestinian civil war. Other nations, too, are blamed for his problems. After meeting President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo, he charged that the donor countries have failed to deliver on their promises to contribute to the Palestinian Authority's economy. Grandiose plans for an airport and a harbor in Gaza have also failed to materialize, he said, because the potential investors have not come through. What he failed to mention was that his administration's corruption has become notorious.

True to tradition, Arafat places the blame everywhere but at the Palestinians' doorstep. Instead of searching for scapegoats, he would do better to unequivocally renounce the armed struggle, stop venerating his "martyrs" at every opportunity, extradite terrorists wanted for the murder of Israelis, and use his huge police force to eliminate the Islamic and radical militias. Anything short of that can only make his expressions of sympathy for terror victims and the ballyhooed arrests of opponents seem like an exercise in public relations.



Friends and firepower

FIRST came the Lavi. Now it's the Galil.

Both are Israeli inventions. One had the potential to be the world's best warplane; the other was the best automatic weapon in existence. Certainly there is nothing to compare with the Galil's reliability in Middle Eastern conditions, which range from desert sandstorms to pouring rain and heavy, clinging mud.

The Lavi and the Galil received the same treatment under Yitzhak Rabin as defense minister, when Rabin deemed that American was better - or cheaper. His policy of pleasing the US administration (with a kindly nod in the direction of US armaments manufacturers), is threatening Israel's tradition of relying as far as possible on home-produced weaponry for its armed forces.

"Becoming dependent on foreign suppliers, no matter how friendly and sympathetic, is a recipe for disaster," we were told by a senior defense analyst.

During the Gulf war, the Americans refused to share satellite pictures with Israel. The pictures pinpointed the launch sites of the Scuds being fired at us. This prompted then-minister of defense Moshe Arens to declare that Israel would make every effort to launch its own spy satellite. Thanks to Arens's foresight, Israel can now make its own observations from outer space.

"Such scientific development is expensive. However, it's more vital to spend our money this way instead of playing politics by squandering resources on bankrupt institutions like the Histadrut," commented the defense analyst drily.

Recently, Rabin decided to replace the Galil automatic rifle with the American M16.

Why? Because the US has offered it to Israel at a bargain basement price.

When proponents of the Galil pointed out that shortsighted penny-pinching would destroy a vital and successful home industry, they were told: "Export your weapons."

The M16 is an extremely good gun, and it's lighter than the Galil. But it isn't as trustworthy in the conditions under which Israel's army is forced to do battle. It's not as if the Galil's weight

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

is a problem - its Israeli makers have produced the advanced "mini-Galil" model, which has proved its worth in a long series of tests.

ONE MIGHT have thought that Rabin would remember the time Israel faced total disaster by relying on "trusted and friendly foreign powers" for its weaponry.

When our great buddy the US declared a total embargo on sending arms to the nascent Jewish state in 1948, Israeli citizens beheld calamity as the Arab states invaded from all sides.

It took the courage and initiative of individual American Jews, as well as Israelis, who scoured

Egypt, Israel managed, by the skin of its teeth, to cope without replacements for damaged equipment.

Surely Rabin ought to have remembered this, of all lessons. He was so desperately fearful that Israel was facing disaster, that he suffered a breakdown, and pleaded with Ezer Weizman, then deputy chief of staff, to take over the conduct of the war.

In the event, no such intervention was necessary and Israel's forces won, despite Rabin's absence during the most crucial part of the fighting.

Yet, our present defense minister has forgotten the lesson, it seems.

A Treasury official recently revealed that over the eight-year period in the past decade that Rabin has been minister of defense, the amount of money spent on developing new weapons and planning for the future has decreased by a catastrophic two-thirds.

Even Shimon Peres, a nonmilitary man (as Rabin is quick to point out), knew better than to undermine Israel's military independence.

In 1962, when Peres was deputy minister of defense, then-deputy chief of staff Rabin sneered at his project to build an Israeli missile. It was only during Menachem Begin's regime that defense ministers Ezer Weizman and Ariel Sharon ensured that the Shavit became a successful reality.

Ironically, Rabin indirectly seized the credit for the Ofek-3 satellite last week by releasing the news of its launch to the world. The satellite "highlights Israel's technological level and know-how," he said.

This may have brought a smile to Peres's face, for the Ofek-3 was hurled into the sky by his much-maligned brainchild, the Shavit rocket.

And perhaps the prime minister finally got the message: Focus as much energy and resources into Israeli scientific and military R&D programs as possible, instead of allowing them to wither away for lack of financing.

The writers are authors of The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and other books on the Middle East.

It's time Rabin learned that the only country Israel can rely on for weaponry is itself

the world illegally purchasing weapons at any cost to give the country a fighting chance.

That was the first lesson of "trust in yourself only," which Rabin has forgotten.

It was Ben-Gurion who established the tradition of military self-reliance in the state's early days. He called in his local locksmith, and told him to create the country's first personal weapon.

The locksmith traveled widely, buying every kind of weapon he could lay his hands on. On his return, he created the legendary Uzzi, still in worldwide use.

In 1967, Israel was stabbed in the back by Charles de Gaulle three days before the outbreak of the Six Day War. Enraged by the way Israel had ignored his advice to adopt a purely defensive strategy, the haughty French president clamped a total embargo on weapons that had already been paid for. These included vital spare parts for French planes, then the backbone of the Israel Air Force.

Fortunately, the first strike by the Israeli Mirages crippled

'Sin of silence'

SARA ENGRAM

THIS is Holy Week, the days of roller-coaster emotions that take Christians from the celebration of Palm Sunday through the ignominy of Good Friday to the triumph of Easter morning. For Christians, it is an annual pilgrimage that re-enacts the heart of Christian faith, a time to reaffirm life itself.

That has not always been the case for the rest of the world. For people such as Rabbi Leon Klenicke, Holy Week brings painful memories. Klenicke, now director of Interfaith Affairs for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in New York, remembers the dread Easter aroused in him as a boy.

In Argentina, where his family had fled to escape the Holocaust, a right-wing Catholic group would mark Holy Week by distributing leaflets in downtown Buenos Aires with quotations from the Gospel of John - specifically, verses naming "the Jews" as responsible for the crucifixion of Jesus.

Those quotations were followed by an unmistakable threat: Just as "the Jews" killed Jesus, so also were "the Jews" trying to undermine Argentina. No bishop in the country bothered to condemn the propaganda.

FLASH FORWARD a few decades, to a gathering of Baptists in Vienna, Virginia, last month. These are the people who usually make news for fierce debates about the inerrancy of Scripture and, in recent years, for the searing, take-no-prisoners takeover by fundamentalists of the Southern Baptist Convention.

This time, instead of tarring each other as heretics, or referring to Jews and other non-Christians as hopelessly lost, these Baptists were engaged in an act of confession - for "our sin of complicity," "our sin of silence," "our sin of interpreting our sacred writings in such a way that we have created enemies of the Jewish people," "our sin of indifference and inaction to the horrors of the Holocaust," "our sins against the Jewish people."

They then called upon all Baptists to join them in affirming the teaching of the Christian Scriptures that God has not rejected the community of Israel, and in

A bold, blunt statement from Baptists about Jews

renouncing interpretations of Scripture which foster religious stereotyping and prejudices against the Jewish people and their faith.

Three decades ago, the Second Vatican Council opened the gates for serious, honest examination of the tangled, tragic history of relations between Christians and Jews. Since then, many other Christian groups have joined in efforts to find ways in which two faiths with a common heritage can respect each other while respectfully differing.

Often, these dialogues are undertaken with such caution, such fear of causing offense to the other party or, conversely, of disturbing one's own comfortable assumptions, that the result is a polite - but meaningless - conversation.

Not so with the statement adopted last month by the Alliance of Baptists, a group representing some 120 congregations and 60,000 people who no longer feel welcome in the Southern Baptist Convention. They may have lost the denominational trappings of their heritage, but not the spirit, as their landmark statement demonstrated.

Brief and bold, this confession and call for action may be startling (it was a Baptist who announced that God doesn't hear the prayers of a Jew), but it is, in historical context, typically Baptist. These are people who don't mince words, who value forthright, blunt-spoken convictions.

"The average Christian has been stuck between theology and gut instinct," says the Rev. G. David Yeager, who drafted the bulk of the statement.

"They don't want to regard Jews as lost or ignorant... but they don't feel they've been allowed that freedom by Scripture."

But, he insists, the freedom is there, if Christians will only look.

(Baltimore Sun)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

OLD ARGUMENT

Sir, - A recent article in the Post by Gustavo Perednik prompted a long and interesting controversy about the desirability of compulsory teaching of Arabic in Israel. Many letters and articles dealt with the issue and in its last expression, Dan Leon claims that "our children should at least be encouraged to put the same effort into learning Arabic language and culture as they do with English."

As a matter of fact, this is an old argument within Zionism, in which Perednik took the Jabotinsky standpoint. During World War I, Ze'ev Jabotinsky voiced the need to establish a Jewish Legion to fight with the British against the Turks. Max Nordau opposed on the ground that "the Moslems are kin to the Jews, Ishmael was our uncle." To that, Jabotinsky retorted: "Ishmael is not our uncle. We belong, thank God, to Europe, and for 2,000 years we have helped to create the culture of the West" (A History of Zionism by Walter Laqueur, p.228).

Today there is a danger of being swallowed by a regional culture to which we do not want to belong. It is useless to brand this fear racist or undemocratic. We have to make a cultural effort not to be part of a totalitarian and brutal sea. JONATHAN MAUREL Jerusalem.

ROAD DEATH TOLL

Sir, - In his article of March 24, Elihu Richter says that in the 12 months following the selective introduction of the 100 kph. speed limit, 60 more people died than in the previous year and concludes that "clearly the 100 kph limit... was the major reason for this jump in the road death toll."

Everyone deplores road deaths, but this statistical sleight of hand should not go unchallenged. Richter's figures indicate a rise from 489 to 549 in the course of the year, i.e. about 12 percent. But what was the rise in Israeli car ownership during the year? He does not say and I confess I do not know the figure either. However, it would not surprise me in the slightest to learn that it increased by more than 12 percent. And if that is the case, it means that Israeli road deaths per capita actually fell during the year.

Incidentally, I think that Richter's obsession with the speed limit diverts attention from the real and obvious path to better road safety, i.e. an omnipresent highway police force. We don't need Orwellian high-tech monitoring, we need traffic cops that are willing and able to pull over bad drivers at all times and hand out on-the-spot fines.

PETER J. LYTH Tel Aviv.

BUREAUCRATIC INTERFERENCE

Sir, - Let me congratulate you on the article of April 6 by your health reporter Judy Siegel entitled "Cost stops Maccabi from supplying prostate drug." I am only in my forties and suffer from an enlarged prostate. I was under pressure by my doctor to have it removed. But after being treated with the Israeli-manufactured drug Procare, made by Teva, for six months, my prostate problem was practically eliminated.

However, after January 1, my doctor received threats from the Maccabi health fund and was forced by them to stop prescribing that medication due to budget cuts. It seems that the health fund only approves of prostatectomies.

It is a scandal that many thousands of men in this country undergo this operation, with all the associated risks of complications as well as the physical side effects of prostate loss, when a simple locally-made drug would make a large percentage of these operations unnecessary.

It's time that the health funds put their members' health first. We should be able to expect proper medical care from our doctors without bureaucratic interference.

Kiryat Yam.

MARTIN ROBBINS

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



New York City is fighting street crime by introducing hundreds of Robocops to the force who - actually, he's only a model promoting a trade show at the American International Toy Building. (AP)

100

Zip: _____ Country: _____ Tel./Fax: _____

BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1995

Kerkorian offers to purchase rest of Chrysler for \$20b.

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Billionaire investor Kirk Kerkorian yesterday offered to buy Chrysler Corp. for more than \$20 billion, shocking workers and executives from Detroit to Wall Street, but takeover specialists wondered if he really meant it.

If successful, Kerkorian's offer - which represents a 40 percent premium over the recent price of Chrysler stock - would be the second-biggest takeover in corporate history.

The surprise offer of \$55 a share from Kerkorian's Tracinda Corp., which already owns 10% of Chrysler, comes more than a decade after the nation's No. 3 automaker turned to the government for loan guarantees to avoid bankruptcy.

The bid values Chrysler at a total \$22.8b.

Tracinda, a developer of Las Vegas casino hotels that once also owned the MGM Grand luxury airline, said former Chrysler chairman Lee Iacocca would contribute about \$50 million in

Chrysler stock to its effort but would take no management role.

Iacocca helped arrange \$1.5b. in federal loan guarantees for Chrysler in 1980 and guided the automaker back into profitability from the brink of bankruptcy.

Chrysler said its board and advisers would review the bid, but noted that Tracinda had no financing commitments to complete the deal and no investment banking adviser.

The offer was greeted with skepticism on Wall Street, where experts said Chrysler was worth more than \$55 a share and suggested it may be a ploy to get the automaker to buy back Kerkorian's Chrysler stock at a premium.

"It's hard to judge what the real agenda is," said one takeover stock specialist, who requested anonymity. "It's some kind of move to improve the stock price but if it's greenmail this is an elaborate way of going about it."

Based on Chrysler's 415 mil-



Kerkorian's Tracinda Corp. already owns 10% of Chrysler. (AP)

lion outstanding shares, the offer values the automaker at \$22.8b.

A takeover at that price would be second only to the \$25b. buyout of RJR Nabisco by takeover specialists Kohlberg Kravis

Roberts in 1989.

Tracinda also said it has a "short list" of possible foreign partners and hinted it would consider raising its bid if a competing offer were made.

Exporters press Shohat to help boost profits

RACHEL NEIMAN

THE country's industry leaders and the Export Institute sent an open letter to Finance Minister Avraham Shohat yesterday, asking him for emergency measures to bring about a rise in export profitability.

"In its present state, market interest rates are too high for us," the letter said, citing the dollar's revaluation and inflation "which is higher than is acceptable in Western nations."

"We are heading under the

weight of this burden and sending you this message: No more!"

The letter concluded with a call for action and was signed by some of the country's most important exporters, including: ECI, Elscim, Osem, Delta Gail, Vishay, Haifa Chemicals, Lanet, Motorola, Scitex, Elite, and Tadiran.

The signatories said they would be happy to meet with Shohat to

discuss possible solutions.

Meanwhile, the Industry and Trade Ministry reported that industrial exports rose 18.9% in March from last March to \$1.4 billion.

Polished diamond exports increased 13.6% to \$330 million. In the first quarter, exports went up 10.8% to \$3.84b.

However, the ministry pointed out that Pessah was celebrated in March last year, making the comparison less meaningful.

Elite closes down Antwerp office, to set up 4 headquarters in Europe

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

ELITE Industries plans to establish four separate headquarters in Europe, instead of the major office it operated in Antwerp.

Elite closed down its Antwerp headquarters two months ago as part of its reorganization and efficiency plans in Europe.

The company's plans also involve the firing of 70 workers in

Elite's French subsidiary.

A source close to the company said Elite plans to replace its European managers with Israeli ones to keep a closer watch on its European activities.

Elite completed the year with a rise in net profits to NIS 30.3m.

from NIS 20.7m.

The company suffered net losses of NIS 2.8m. in the fourth quarter, compared with NIS 5.7m. in net profits in the corresponding period in 1993.

The company said fourth-quarter losses were due to a sharp increase in the price of its main raw material, coffee beans.

Shamrock Group to pay Hevrat Ha'ovdim \$10 million down payment for Koor shares

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE US Shamrock Group will give Hevrat Ha'ovdim a \$10 million down payment as part of its purchase of 22.5 percent of Koor Industries' shares.

The Shamrock Group, an investment firm controlled by the Disney family, earlier this week told Hevrat Ha'ovdim it plans to exercise its option to purchase Koor's shares.

The agreement in full will be signed in 30 days.

Shamrock has an option to purchase Hevrat Ha'ovdim's 3,090,030 shares in Koor for \$255.44 million if the transaction is completed before May 5, or \$256.5m. if the transaction is completed by May 19.

Koor's shares have risen 10.6 percent since March 6, when Shamrock signed an agreement in

principle to purchase the shares.

Koor was valued at \$1.13 billion for the purpose of the transaction, about 20% higher than the market value of the shares at the time the agreement was reached.

The proceeds of the sale will be used to cover part of the Histadrut's deficit, totaling about NIS 1b. Hevrat Ha'ovdim will be entitled to a final dividend of NIS 4.5m., which will be distributed May 23.

Following the acquisition, Shamrock is expected to appoint its representatives on Koor's board of directors. Several weeks ago, Shamrock president Stanley Gold said the group does not plan any changes in Koor's structure

or management.

Gold said the group supports Koor president and CEO Benny Gaon's plan to turn the conglomerate into a multinational company by listing its shares on a foreign exchange and reaching strategic agreements outside of Israel.

"We see the purchase as an expression of belief in Koor, in the company's ability and future development potential," Gaon said in reaction to the sale.

Koor's other major shareholders are Bank Hapoalim, with a 26% stake, and Bank Leumi, with 7%. The other shareholders include provident and mutual funds affiliated with Bank Hapoalim and Bank Leumi with 17%, and the public, which holds the remaining 27.5%.

Annual net profits plummet 33% at Harel Hamishmar Inv.

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

HAREL HAMISHMAR Investments yesterday reported a 33 percent drop in annual net profits to NIS 23 million from NIS 34m. in 1993.

Managing director Yair Hamberger blamed the drop in earnings on the significant growth in car insurance claims, especially in the fourth quarter.

He said the growth in claims reflects a significant rise in car thefts.

The fall in profits was also due to a drop in earnings from capital market investments as a result of the lower stock market.

In the life insurance sector, Harel Hamishmar increased its profit to NIS 38m. from NIS 32m. Total premiums from life insurance activities increased 12% to NIS 500m. from NIS 446m.

The company reported a drop in the elementary insurance sector to NIS 35m. from NIS 41m. Total premiums in the elemen-

tary insurance sector increased to NIS 1 billion from NIS 834,000. About 30% of the total premiums are from health insurance premiums.

Harel Hamishmar's total assets were NIS 3.4b. at the end of 1994.

The company's shareholders' equity was NIS 210m.

Hadar Insurance, a subsidiary of Phoenix Israel, reported a plunge in annual net profits to NIS 15.02 million from NIS 48.82m. in 1993.

The company's net profits from the life insurance sector increased to NIS 13.31m. from NIS 8.06m., while total premiums from the sector went up to NIS 192.6m. from NIS 163.34m.

Hadar had a profit of NIS 8.39m. from elementary insurance, compared with a net loss of NIS 1.57m. in 1993.

Total premiums in the elementary insurance sector increased to NIS 307.3m. from NIS 283.13m.

Fibi Holdings reports 20.9% decrease in annual net profits

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

FIBI Holdings, the parent company of First International Bank, completed last year with a 20.9 percent drop in net profits to NIS 74.14 million from NIS 93.75m. in 1993.

Annual net return on equity fell to 9.9% from 13.3%.

First International Bank's con-

tribution to earnings represented NIS 65.6m. of the total profits, while the remaining NIS 9.5m. represented Dikla mutual fund management company's contribution.

Fibi Holdings registered a net loss of NIS 67,000 in the fourth quarter.

The company said its performance was hindered by the drop on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. Earnings from financing operations before provisions for doubtful debts remained virtually unchanged, at NIS 561m., compared with NIS 560.3m. in the previous year.

The clause was influenced by an erosion in financial margins.

Provisions for doubtful debts fell to NIS 56m. from NIS 46.5m.

A 16.9% reduction in the provision for doubtful debts to NIS 46.5m. from NIS 56m. contributed to profitability.

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.

JOIN US TELEBANK DIAL 02-5199111 FROM 8 AM TO 11 PM. ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Jafra Tabari wins license to distribute Royal Crown drinks: Jafra Tabari, the bottled and canned soft drinks manufacturer, has received the license to manufacture and distribute the US Royal Crown company's soft drinks here. Royal Crown is one of the five largest fizzy drinks manufacture in the US. Jafra Tabari chairman Roni Gat said Jafra will start manufacturing Royal Crown drinks this summer.

'Internet users will be able to communicate in any language': Kivun Computers, known outside Israel as Accent Software International, yesterday announced the prototype development of a revolutionary Windows-based technology which will allow Internet users to communicate in any language. Until now, Internet users have been limited to English fonts. Now, for example, Israeli users in New York can read Hebrew texts from Jerusalem through the network, even if there is no Hebrew software at their workplace.

Currency in circulation rises to NIS 6.5 billion: Currency in circulation totaled NIS 6.5 billion at the end of the year, compared with NIS 5.7b. in 1993, according to the Bank of Israel currency division's annual survey. The real value of cash in circulation fell 0.2 percent, compared with a 6% rise. The number of bills in circulation went up 11 million to 104 million. Most of the increase was due to a larger number of NIS 50 and NIS 200 bills in circulation. The NIS 50 note is the most common bill, representing 47% of the bills in circulation.

M-Systems Flash Disk Pioneers announced yesterday it has been issued a US patent for its method of data storage on Flash semiconductor memory devices using its TrueFFS software program. It also announced the signing of licensing deals with two leading international telecommunications firms.

Tuttnauer receives NIS 2.8 million in export orders: Autoclave manufacturer Tuttnauer recently received some NIS 2.8 million in export orders to hospitals in New York and New Jersey.

Processed food sales increased five percent on the eve of Pessah, compared with the corresponding period in 1993, the Manufacturers Association announced yesterday. The association said the highest sales growth was registered in the sweets, chocolate, soup and snacks market - which went up between seven percent and 10%.

Sales of processed meat products grew 5%, while matza sales increased 5%. Wine and other alcoholic beverage sales increased between 4% and 7%, while soft beverage sales went up between 5% and 7%.

'Motorola, US West Cellular in cooperative agreement: A cooperative agreement between Motorola and US West Cellular will allow Telephone subscribers to use their cellular phones in the US and Canada. As of next week, calls may be made by following instructions available at Telephone's service centers and using the calling cards of one of the several companies offering international phone service here.

National Insurance Institute

All branches of the National Insurance Institute will be CLOSED on Pessah

starting Friday, April 14, 1995.

Branches will reopen on Sunday, April 23, 1995.

Hag Sameach.

Public Relations Dept.

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
The Accountant General

Bids are invited for the supply of goods of various types, required by government agencies located through Israel:

Tender 3/95 - Fire-Fighting Equipment
Tender 4/95 - Paper for Facsimile Machines
Tender 6/95 - Portable and Laptop Computers

Preference will be given to Israeli-made products, in accordance with the subsidiary regulations *dalet* to *het*, published in *Kovetz Takanot* 5653 of January 15, 1995, relating to bids for Israeli-made fire-fighting equipment, facsimile paper and portable and laptop computers, whose prices do not exceed those of imported goods by more than 15%.

Last date for submitting bids: May 29, 1995 (1 p.m.).

The tender documents are available at the Tenders and Buying Department, The Accountant General's Office, Ministry of Finance, 1 Rehov Kaplan, Jerusalem, 7th floor, Rooms 714, 715.

Additional details from Tel. 02-317428, 02-317418.

No undertaking is given to accept the lowest, or any other bid.

The Israel Telecommunication Corp. Ltd.
Bids are invited for the supply of the following goods:

Tender 89/95/340/0

Installation, Exchange and Down-dropper
Cables - Long Term Agreement

- Bezeq reserves the right to order an additional quantity of 100%, above the quantity noted in the tender documents, for supply within two years.
- Bezeq reserves the right to conduct negotiations with some or all the bidders, regarding the details of their bids.
- General conditions applying:
 - Comply with all laws, including laws regarding the keeping of books, must be approved traders for VAT purposes, must be licensed and registered, and must comply with all relevant standard specifications.
 - Provide a guarantee of 5% of the bid total, to ensure execution of order(s), based on bid.
- The tender documents can be obtained from the Buying Section, Tenders and Orders Department, 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem (Room 607), Sunday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 noon, Tel. 02-395428, 226.
- Bids must be placed in the tenders box 1 Rehov Hazoreg, Jerusalem, not later than May 16, 1995, (1 p.m.).
- No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid, or to order the total quantity from one supplier.

Bids sent by fax will not be considered.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (10.4.95)			
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	3.375	6.500	8.875
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	3.375	6.500	8.875
U.S. dollar (\$10,000)	3.375	6.500	8.875
German mark (DM 200,000)	3.125	6.125	8.625
Swiss franc (CHF 200,000)	2.125	5.125	7.625
Yen (¥10 million)	0.250	0.125	0.125

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (12.4.95)			
Currency	Buy	Sell	Banknotes
U.S. dollar	3.4011	3.4885	3.4448
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	2.9438	2.9913	2.9700
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	2.9438	2.9913	2.9700
U.S. dollar (\$10,000)	2.9438	2.9913	2.9700
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.6805	4.7554	4.7225
Swiss franc (CHF 200,000)	0.6007	0.6104	0.6053
Japanese yen (¥100)	3.5078	3.5844	3.5461
Dutch guilder	1.8748	1.9051	1.8902
Swiss franc	2.5487	2.5899	2.5693
Swedish krona	0.4025	0.4070	0.4048
Norwegian krone	0.4691	0.4767	0.4729
Denmark krone	0.5339	0.5426	0.5383
Finland mark	0.5527	0.5608	0.5568
Canadian dollar	2.1316	2.1822	2.1569
Australian dollar	2.1838	2.2191	2.2015
S. African rand	0.8168	0.8300	0.8234
Belgian franc (10)	1.0216	1.0301	1.0258
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8843	3.0223	2.9533
Italian lira (1000)	1.6967	1.7241	1.7104
Jordanian dinar	—	—	—
Egyptian pound	—	—	—
ECU	3.8636	3.9250	3.8943
Irish punt	4.7537	4.8225	4.7882
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3488	2.3867	2.3678

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

Man Utd beats Palace, makes FA Cup final

BIRMINGHAM (Reuters) — Steve Bruce and Gary Pallister headed Manchester United into the FA Cup final with a goal apiece in a 2-0 semifinal replay victory over Crystal Palace yesterday.

The two central defenders powered in first-half headers to earn the Cup holders a chance of retaining the coveted trophy in next month's final against Everton — a re-run of the 1985 final.

The match was overshadowed by the death of a Palace supporter in violent clashes before the semifinal on Sunday and the London club had appealed for it to be postponed.

Palace fans responded to calls by its club for a boycott, resulting in a crowd of under 18,000 — the lowest post-WW2 attendance for an FA Cup semifinal.

The two sides, whose relations were soured by French international Eric Cantona's attack on a

Palace fan during a league match in London, both had a player sent off in the second half.

United's Roy Keane was dismissed for stamping on a Palace player in the 52nd minute and Darren Patterson went with him for hitting out at the Ireland international after the incident.

The dismissals had little impact on the balance of the tie, which United had controlled almost throughout.

From the moment Bruce marked his return from suspension with a 30th minute header United looked self-assured.

Pallister added the second four minutes before halftime as the English giants, winners of the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1991, brushed aside their relegation-threatened opponents.

Yesterday's results: Premier League — Arsenal 0, Liverpool 1; Chelsea 0, Southampton 2; Norwich 0, Nottingham Forest 1; Division One — Derby 3, Wolverhampton 3; Stoke 0, Barnsley 0.

NEW YORK (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks worked overtime for a critical victory, and the San Antonio Spurs hardly showed up in losing.

Dallas is two games behind Denver and Sacramento in the race for the final playoff berth in the NBA's Western Conference after a wild 156-147 double-overtime victory at Houston on Tuesday night.

The Mavericks got the third triple-double in five games by rookie Jason Kidd, whose 38 points were the rookie's high in the NBA.

The Spurs, who had been riding a league-high 15-game winning streak, set franchise lows in scoring and shooting in falling to the Portland Trail Blazers 91-71. The 71 points, 31 percent shooting and 23 field goals all were ignominious marks for the team with the NBA's best record.

"We played exceptionally well and caught them on a subpar night," Portland coach PJ Carlesimo said. "It was great to get a road win against the premier team in the league."

Mavericks 126, Rockets 147 (2 OT). While Kidd also had 11 rebounds and 10 assists, teammate Jamal Mashburn scored 42 points at Houston.

The teams combined for 28 3-point baskets, an NBA record.

Mavs in wild west win

"I've never seen anything quite like the performance both of these teams put on," Mavericks coach Dick Motta said after his team staged a late rally in regulation with some sharp long-range shooting.

Clyde Drexler led Houston with 29 points, 11 rebounds and 11 assists, and Kenny Smith scored 29.

Dallas — 19 28 26 46 22 14 — 158 Houston — 24 31 30 34 22 5 — 147

Dallas (158) — 19 28 26 46 22 14 — 158 Houston (147) — 24 31 30 34 22 5 — 147

Portland 91, San Antonio 71. Portland's defense was so good — and San Antonio's shooting so bad — that the Spurs were outscored 22-10 in the third quarter, their lowest scoring period all season.

Cliff Robinson had 23 points for the Trail Blazers, David Robinson led the Spurs with 21 points and 12 rebounds, but the all-star center was

only 6-for-23 from the field. "This was probably our worst game of the year," Avery Johnson said. "They didn't play all that great. We just played awful. It seemed like we left our legs on the plane."

Hawks 110, 76ers 106 (OT). Atlanta climbed into the playoffs as Grant Long scored a career-high 33 points and Steve Smith added 25. The Hawks won their sixth straight at Philadelphia.

Dana Barros had 27 points and 10 assists for Philadelphia.

Kings 117, Clippers 85. Mitch Richmond scored 24 points and Walt Williams 23 as Sacramento moved into a tie with Denver at 36-39 for the final playoff spot in the West. It was the Kings' most lopsided win of the season and was clinched when they outscored Los Angeles 16-1 in the final 4:13 of the third quarter to stretch a nine-point lead to 84-61.

Magic 107, Cavaliers 90. Dana Barros moved closer to clinching homecourt advantage through the Eastern Conference playoffs.

Orlando improved to 37-2 at home and reduced the number of combined victories and New York losses needed to clinch homecourt advantage in the East to two.

Shaquille O'Neal had 30 points and 18 rebounds for the Magic.

Bulls 96, Pacers 89. Host Chicago pulled down a season-high 54 rebounds, offsetting Mi-

chael Jordan's poor shooting. Jordan, a .516 shooter during his first nine seasons, went 8-for-27, dropping his percentage to .396 in 11 games since coming out of retirement.

Jordan did have 25 points, a season-high 11 rebounds and six assists. The Bulls have won eight of 11 since Jordan returned.

Rik Smits scored 26 points for Indiana.

Knicks 112, Heat 99. Host New York scored on its first eight possessions of the second half, stretching a nine-point halftime lead to 73-58 on a basket by Patrick Ewing, who finished with 31 points.

For the first time in franchise history, New York reached the 50-win mark for a fourth consecutive year. It was the 13th season in a row Pat Riley has coached a team to that many victories.

Some 96, SuperSonics 90. Phoenix (54-22) took a half-game lead over Seattle (53-22) in the battle for the Pacific Division title. Charles

TUESDAY'S RESULTS: New York 112, Miami 99. Atlanta 110, Philadelphia 106 (OT). Orlando 107, Cleveland 90. Chicago 96, Indiana 89. Portland 91, San Antonio 71. Milwaukee 114, Detroit 109 (OT). Utah 100, L.A. Lakers 93. Phoenix 96, Seattle 90. Dallas 156, Houston 147 (2OT). Sacramento 117, LA Clippers 85.

Barkley had 17 points and 14 rebounds.

The Suns defense dominated the game, holding the Sonics to a season-low 36.3 shooting from the field.

Shawn Kemp had 27 points and 15 rebounds for Seattle.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
*Orlando	55	21	.724	0
*New York	50	25	.667	4.5
Boston	32	44	.421	23
Miami	28	47	.366	28
New Jersey	28	47	.366	28
Philadelphia	21	55	.276	34.5
Washington	18	57	.240	36.5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
*Indiana	48	28	.630	0
*Charlotte	48	28	.630	0
*Chicago	38	38	.500	10
Detroit	38	38	.500	10
*Atlanta	38	38	.500	10
Milwaukee	31	45	.408	17.5
Detroit	27	45	.368	21

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
*San Antonio	55	19	.747	0
*Utah	54	22	.711	2.5
*Houston	34	32	.515	20
Cleveland	34	32	.515	20
Dallas	34	32	.515	20
Minnesota	20	55	.267	38

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
*Phoenix	54	22	.711	0
*Seattle	54	22	.711	0
*LA Lakers	47	29	.618	7
Portland	40	36	.526	13.5
Sacramento	38	38	.500	17.5
Golden State	24	51	.320	28.5
LA Clippers	16	60	.211	38

*clinched playoff berth

Agassi coasts to win in debut as No. 1

No. 2 Sampras loses to unseeded Gross

TOKYO (AP) — Andre Agassi, the newly crowned No. 1 of tennis, says it would feel good to hold that rank even for an hour.

That's about how long it took him to overpower fellow American Tommy Ho 6-3, 6-2 yesterday in his first match since he overtook Pete Sampras at the top.

The victory put him into the third round of the \$1.2 million Japan Open, where he will face No. 15 seed Sebastien Lareau of Canada today.

His top competition here is world No. 6 Michael Chang of the US, the second seed.

Chang reeled off nine straight games in a 6-4, 6-2 second-round victory over Japan's Shuzo Matsumoto, who fell victim to errors and Chang's passing shots.

Meanwhile in Barcelona, unseeded German Oliver Gross pulled off a surprise victory yesterday defeating world No. 2 Sampras, 1-6, 6-2, 6-3 in the second round of the Conde de Godo ATP tournament.

Gross won the match in one hour, 43 minutes.

"It means a lot to me beating Sampras. It's my best win ever," said Gross. "He made easy mistakes and he gave me a lot of points."

Earlier, unseeded Gilbert Schaller of Austria upset No. 2 seed Sergi Bruguera of Spain 7-5, 6-1.

Meanwhile, Anna Smashnova lost in the first round of the South Africa tournament to Erika Dallon of the US, 6-2, 6-3.

Steve Waugh steadies Aussies with half ton

ST JOHN'S (Reuters) — Steve Waugh was 52 not out at tea, his 26th Test half century as Australia was 273-7 in its second innings, an overall lead of 229, when rain forced a premature close to the fourth day of the second Test against West Indies yesterday.

The final session was washed out following a downpour during the tea break.

The touring team would have been better placed but lost a wicket in the last over before tea when Brendon Julian was run out by Jimmy Adams's throw from the mid-wicket boundary.

Waugh earlier shared a 58-run partnership with Ian Healy (26) who was the only other batsman to lose his wicket in the second session, caught by Carl Hooper at second slip off Courtney Walsh.

It gave Walsh his third wicket of the innings and was an unexpected interruption to a splendid recovery by the Australians who had lost three wickets before lunch.

David Boon (67) and Mark Waugh (61) were both dismissed by Winston Benjamin in the first hour, Benjamin picking up 2-24 in a splendid nine-over spell.

Rishon beats Hap Jerusalem for Korac slot

MACCABI Rishon LeZion beat Hapoel Jerusalem 101-82 last night in the capital to sweep the best-of-three special playoffs to determine Israel's third representative in next season's Korac Cup competition.

Rishon joins Hapoel Tel Aviv and Hapoel Holon.

Local cricket season begins

NEIL Ward and Adrian Vard of Netanya defeated Benny Glicker and Moshe Saul of Beersheba in the double wicket competition which signals the start of the Israel Cricket League season.

Ramla 128/7 (Aby Robekar 32, Jackie Diverkar 3/31) beat Dimona C 125 (B. Talker 46, Rafi Samson 4/23, Ruel Samson 4/26).

Lod 150/5 (Solomon Waskar 45, A. Havan 34) beat Dimona A 145/9 (Yona Sogankar 42, Avner Vaskar 6/26).

SCOREBOARD

YOUTH TENNIS — Amir Hadad won in the 17-year-old category by beating Sa'ar Volovitzky 6-3, 6-1 in the final yesterday at the annual Pesach Youth Tournament in Ramat Hasharon. In the girls' 16-year-old category, Tamir Karva beat Rotem Tellerberg 6-3, 4-6, 6-2. Other winners were Tomer Sussan (14-year-olds), Meir Sirkin (12) and Assaf Cohen (11).

The Sports Pages are edited by Joe Hoffman

Olympiakos, Real Madrid set for European title game

ZARAGOZA (Reuters) — Olympiakos bids to become the first Greek team to lift the European Club Champions Cup tonight when it meets a formidable Real Madrid in a final billed as a tale of two titans.

The Greeks know they will have to find an answer to the coaching wizardry of Serb Zeljko Obradovic if they are to return home as national heroes.

Obradovic, who was named yesterday as FIBA's coach of the year, has twice taken teams to the Final Four and both times walked away with the most prestigious prize in European club basketball.

Last April, he engineered Joventut Badalona's championship success, taking the Catalans to a last minute two-point win in the Yadi Eliyahu final — against Olympiakos.

In contrast, Olympiakos coach Yiannis Ioannidis is still waiting for a championship. This is his fifth attempt and he has always come away empty-handed.

But Obradovic said his previous successes will count for nothing when the two teams take the court at the Principe Felipe stadium tonight.

Madrid boasts Arvidas Sabonis as their most lethal weapon. The 2.24-meter center was named yesterday as the European basketball player of the year by FIBA.

The 30-year-old Lithuanian led the Soviet Union to the Olympic gold medal in 1988 and helped Lithuania to the bronze in 1992. He was drafted in 1986 by the Portland Trail Blazers, but decided to play in Europe following a serious foot injury.

"He's the best player in Europe at the moment without a



BEST MAN — Real Madrid's Arvidas Sabonis, named European player of the year, leads team against Olympiakos tonight (AP)

doubt... he's unstoppable."

Obradovic said. He added that Sabonis was still suffering slight twinges from an injury picked up in the semifinal win over Limoges but would be fit to face the Greeks.

Sabonis has gained from his partnership with American pivot Joe Arlanckas and under the baskets they form the most deadly combination in Europe.

But if Madrid — seeking its first title since 1980 when it beat Maccabi Tel Aviv — enjoy superior height and strength under the boards, Olympiakos has the edge from outside the D.

They will be hoping Eddie Johnson can repeat the clinical long range shooting performance he gave in the semifinal victory over arch-rivals Panathinaikos.

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VEHICLES

Histadrut budget goes just over a billion

THE Histadrut executive yesterday approved the NIS 1.1 billion 1995 budget. NIS 439.8 million is the regular operating budget and NIS 661m. is a special budget earmarked for covering debts and severance pay for fired workers.

Shas' Yehuda Avidan and David Tal voted against the budget, and Na'amat Chairwoman Ofra Friedman and Gershon Gelman, both of Labor, abstained.

Treasurer Haim Oron said the regular budget reflects a 40 percent reduction in last year's equivalent budget and a 50% cut in personnel. It reflects the increased importance with which the new Histadrut leadership re-

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

gards the trade union and the labor council sections, which received 25% and 30% of the budget, respectively.

The money needed to fund the budget is expected to be raised by the sale of Histadrut properties and assets, and from membership dues.

The overall expenses of Histadrut headquarters are budgeted at NIS 176.5m.; local labor council expenses at NIS 173.7m.; and institutions with independent budgets at NIS 76.4m.

Shas held up the budget approval, when it refused to sup-

port a drastic cut in the social affairs department, which it heads, from NIS 8m. last year to NIS 450,000.

The religious department has also been cut from NIS 1.8m. to about NIS 400,000.

Today, the budget committee is to sign the lease for the Histadrut's new home - a seven-story building in Jerusalem's Givat Shaul section. The Histadrut is expected to move in December, if construction is completed in time. The building belongs to the Mehapech Co., which will be charging the Histadrut \$90,000 a month.

Olmert fires deputy mayor

JERUSALEM Mayor Ehud Olmert yesterday sacked one of his deputy mayors, Meshulam Amit, on the grounds he was threatening city officials with accusations of financial wrongdoings.

Amit charged Olmert is trying to fire him because he refused to retract a complaint he filed to police concerning city hall.

"The mayor wanted me to keep quiet about things I uncovered at city hall, and when I refused, he tried to fire me," Amit told *The Jerusalem Post* last night.

"Several days ago the mayor called me into his office and said

BILL HUTMAN

if I wouldn't take back the police complaint he would fire me," added Amit, who was Border Police chief before entering politics two years ago.

Amit ran in the municipal election on a campaign that focused on the promise to "clean up" alleged improprieties in the Jerusalem Municipality.

"What Olmert did was illegal - an attempt to influence the outcome of a police investigation - and I have filed a complaint with police against him," Amit said.

Olmert, in a letter to Amit ex-

plaining why he was being fired, wrote that "more than once you threatened workers, saying 'I'll throw you all in jail.'"

"In countless meetings you harmed, degraded, and threatened workers with allegations that were totally without basis," Olmert wrote.

"It is unacceptable that you would take action against workers without first consulting me about your complaints," the mayor wrote.

Amit, meanwhile, said he planned to show up for work today at city hall, despite Olmert's letter removing his portfolio.

Segev talks energy with Egyptians

ENERGY Minister Gonen Segev yesterday returned from a 24-hour visit to Egypt, where he discussed plans to import Egyptian natural gas and link Israel's electricity grid into regional networks.

Segev told Reuters after his talks with Egyptian Oil Minister Hamdi Baubli the two sides have yet to settle the quantity and pricing of the proposed imports.

-At a meeting with Osama Baz,

News agencies

adviser to President Hosni Mubarak, Baz told Segev that "it is forbidden for political disputes between Egypt and Israel, such as the one regarding the signing of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, to influence or delay the progress of economic ties." Baz asked Segev to convey this message to Prime Minister Yitzhak

Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

Egypt confirmed yesterday that it would support the extension of the NPT for another five years.

Referring to recent terrorist acts committed by Hamas, Baz said, "If [PA Chairman Yasser] Arafat does not get control over terrorism, terrorism will control him."



The top two winners in the eighth Arthur Rubinstein Piano Competition rest on their laurels yesterday. Standing is Alexander Korsantiya of Georgia (first place), and at the keyboard Sergei Tarasov of Russia (second). (Brian Headley)

Court declines to halt controversial Jaffa building

THE High Court of Justice yesterday rejected a petition by the Manof Center for Jewish Information against a construction project in Jaffa. Haredim believe the work is being done on the site of an ancient Jewish cemetery.

Justices Shlomo Levine and Dalia Dorner said the petition

should be rejected even though the respondents - the contractor, the local authority's planning board, and the Antiquities Authority - had not yet made their arguments.

Justice Eliezer Goldberg dissented, arguing that since the issue - respect for the dead - is so

important, a ruling should be delayed until all arguments were heard.

Manof had argued that construction at the site is continuing, although graves and human bones are still being uncovered there. It argued that this violates planning and construction laws.

The principle behind its arguments was that building on a cemetery violates respect for the dead and respect for humanity.

After the ruling, Manof's attorney, Ra'anan Har-Zahav, said he would seek another hearing before a panel of five justices. (Ilim)

Shetreet to receive list of those barred from marrying

HERB KEINON

RELIGIOUS Affairs Minister Shimon Shetreet will next week receive a computerized list of people prohibited from marrying other Jews, a month after he requested the list from ministry officials who tried to keep it from him, the ministry's spokesman said yesterday.

Shetreet, explaining why some officials did not want him to see the list, said: "They deem the issue sensitive, and the possibility that someone will formally look into the matter, in a legal manner, and that everyone on the list has the right to see if he should be there, was surprising and revolutionary to them."

What is at issue is a list of some 5,000 names of people who are forbidden to marry other Jews because they are identified as offspring of forbidden marriages.

Shetreet wants to set up a committee to review the list, let those on the list know they are on it, and give them a chance to clarify the matter.

One ministry official said the problem is that some of the names are on the list because people called the ministry and reported that a neighbor was not born of a Jewish mother, or was the son or daughter of a divorcee and a *cohen*, a marriage forbidden by halacha.

Nine Israelis held abroad for Bolivia cocaine operation

RAINE MARCUS

CENTRAL District police, together with the US Drug Enforcement Agency and Bolivian police, have arrested nine Sharon-area Israelis for alleged involvement in a cocaine manufacturing laboratory in Bolivia.

Police said the laboratory was managed by Israelis and has manufactured and refined over 10 tons of cocaine over the past seven years. The cocaine was smuggled from Bolivia to Europe and Israel. Over the last two years police

here received tip-offs that known drug dealers in the Sharon district had been distributing high quality cocaine, imported directly from Bolivia.

As a result of the tip-offs, police forces in Germany, Holland, England, France, and Switzerland launched surveillance operations on the "Israeli connection," gathering information linking Israeli citizens to Bolivian residents suspected of distributing cocaine abroad.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Keshet managing director sacked

Alex Giladi, president and managing director of Keshet Broadcasting, one of the Channel 2 franchise holders, was fired as managing director on Tuesday, *Globe* reported yesterday. He will stay on as president, but without operational responsibility. The company's board was unhappy with his performance, characterizing it as "wasteful," especially in regard to the salaries paid to star performers.

Engineer missing five days

Fears mounted yesterday for the life of missing engineer Aharon Isser, who disappeared from his Petah Tikva home Sunday morning. Isser, an employee of Elbit, left home in the company car and has not been seen since. He was reportedly suffering from depression.

Yesterday some 20 volunteers joined police to hunt for him. A work colleague appealed to him on *ITV's Mabat* to contact his family, "just to show signs of life."

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the seven of spades, nine of hearts, jack of diamonds, and eight of clubs.

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